

REMARKS

This Amendment seeks to place this application in condition for allowance. A new Abstract of the Disclosure has been provided and certain of the pending claims have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns (to the extent understood) regarding definiteness (35 USC § 112) as expressed in a telephone interview of July 1, 2003.

In particular, the Abstract of the Disclosure was suggested to be too long and too detailed. As such, a new Abstract of the Disclosure is submitted herewith. It is believed that the new Abstract of the Disclosure addresses the Examiner's concerns and complies with the applicable rules.

Certain claims have been amended, at the request of the Examiner, in order to improve their clarity. It is believed that the claims, as amended, address the Examiner's concern as well as particularly point out and distinctly claim certain features of the Applicant's invention. The amended claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Notably, none of the amendments were not made to address or overcome a rejection or concern regarding patentability in view of prior art. Indeed, no concerns regarding prior art have been raised by the Examiner.

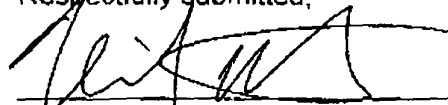
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing Amendment. Applicant submits that all of the claims present patentable subject matter which definitely set forth the novel and unobvious features of Applicant's invention(s). Accordingly, Applicant requests allowance of all of the claims.

It is noted that should a telephone interview expedite the prosecution of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Date: July 2, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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Appendix A

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made to the Specification
****(strike-thru indicates a deletion) & (underlying indicates an insertion)****

In the Specification:

1. The paragraph beginning on page 5, line 21 was amended as follows:

The design configuration shown in the Figures ~~Figure~~-serves to explain how the power output from a wind power installation can be limited in respect of its magnitude to a maximum possible network feed value.

2. The ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE was amended as follows:

In one aspect, the present invention is a method and apparatus for operating a wind park having maximum permissible output power and a plurality of wind power installations wherein each wind power installation includes an output power and a maximum rated output power. A processing unit is coupled to the plurality of wind power installations to control the output power of at least one of the wind power installations. The processing unit may determine the total output power of all of the plurality of wind power installations and, in response thereto, control the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power installations so that the total output power of all of the plurality of wind power installations does not exceed the maximum permissible output power of the wind park. Indeed, the method for operating the wind park, in one aspect, includes determining the output power of the plurality of wind power installations and controlling the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power installations by reducing the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power installations if the total output power of all of the plurality of wind power installations exceeds the maximum permissible output power of the wind park.

~~The invention concerns a method of operating a wind park and also a wind park as such.~~

~~Wind power installations were initially always set up as singular units and it is only in recent years that wind power installations have frequently been installed in wind parks, this being due also to administrative and building regulations. In that respect a wind park, in its smallest entity, is an arrangement of at least two wind power installations but frequently markedly more. By way of example mention may be made of the wind park at Holtriem (East Frisia in Germany), where more than 50 wind power installations are set up in an array. It is to be expected that the number and also the installed power output of the wind power installations will also rise greatly in future years. In most cases the wind potential is at its greatest in regions of the power supply networks with a low short-circuit capacity and a low level of population density. It is precisely there that the technical connection limits are rapidly attained by the wind power installations, with the consequence that no further wind power installations can then be set up at such locations.~~

~~A method of operating a wind park comprising at least two wind power installations, wherein the power output from the wind power installations is limited in respect of its magnitude to a maximum possible network feed value which is lower than the maximum possible value of the power to be outputted (rated power output) and the maximum possible feed value is determined by the receiving capacitance (line capacitance) of the network into which the energy is fed and/or by the power capacitance of the energy transmission unit or the transformer, by means of which the energy produced by the wind power installation is fed into the network.~~

~~(Figure 1)~~

In the Claims:

1 10. (AMENDED) The method of claim 7 wherein the plurality of wind power
2 installations are arranged in at least a first row and a second row, and wherein controlling
3 the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power installation further includ s
4 controlling the output power of the wind power installations so that the output power of each
5 wind power installation in the first row is greater than the output power of each wind power
6 installation in the second row and the output power of the wind park does not exceed th
7 maximum permissible power output of the wind park.

1 13. (AMENDED) The method of claim 7 wherein the plurality of wind power
2 installations are arranged in at least a first row, a second row and a third row and wherein
3 controlling the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power installation further
4 includes controlling the output power of the wind power installations so that the output
5 power of a plurality of wind power installations in the first row is greater than the output
6 power of each wind power installation in the second and third rows and the output power of
7 the wind park does not exceed the maximum permissible power output of the wind park.

1 14. (AMENDED) The method of claim 7 wherein the plurality of wind power
2 installations are arranged in at least a first row and a second row, and wherein controlling
3 the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power installation further includes
4 controlling the output power of wind power installations so that the output power of all of the
5 wind power installations in the first row are greater than the output power of all of the wind

6 power installations in the second row and the output power of the wind park does not
7 exceed the maximum permissible power output of the wind park.

1 15. (AMENDED) The method of claim 7 further including:
2 removing at least one wind power installation from the plurality of wind power
3 installations; and
4 wherein controlling the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power
5 installations ~~installation~~ further includes controlling the output power of at least one of the
6 remaining wind power installations of the plurality of the wind power so that the output
7 power of the wind park does not exceed the maximum permissible power output and the
8 output power of the at least one of the remaining wind power installations does not exceed
9 its maximum rated power.

1 16. (AMENDED) The method of claim 7 further including:
2 removing at least one wind power installation from the plurality of wind power
3 installations; and
4 wherein controlling the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power
5 installations ~~installation~~ further includes controlling the output power of at least one of the
6 remaining wind power installations of the plurality of the wind power so that the output
7 power of the wind park is substantially equal to the maximum permissible power output and
8 the output power of the at least one of the remaining wind power installations does not
9 exceed its maximum rated power.

1 17. (AMENDED) The method of claim 7 wherein controlling the output power of at
2 least one of the plurality of wind power installations ~~installation~~ further includes increasing
3 the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power installations, but not
4 exceeding the maximum rated power of the at least one remaining wind power installation.
5 if the total output power of all of the plurality of wind power installations is less than the
6 maximum permissible output power of the wind park.

1 18. (AMENDED) The method of claim 7 wherein controlling the output power of at
2 least one of the plurality of wind power installations ~~installation~~ further ~~includes controlling~~
3 includes controlling the output power of all of the wind power installations so that the output
4 power of the wind park is substantially equal to the maximum permissible power output and
5 the output power of the wind power installations do not exceed the maximum rated power.

1 19. (AMENDED) A wind park for producing output power, wherein the wind park
2 has a maximum permissible output power, the wind park comprising:
3 a plurality of wind power installations, each wind power installation having an output
4 power and a maximum rated output power;
5 a processing unit, coupled to the plurality of wind power installations, to control the
6 output power of at least one of the wind power installations, wherein the processing unit
7 determines the total output power of all of the plurality of wind power installations and, in
8 response thereto, controls the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power
9 installations ~~installation~~ so that the total output power of all of the plurality of wind power
10 installations does not exceed the maximum permissible output power of the wind park.

1 20. (AMENDED) The wind park of claim 19 wherein the processing unit, in
2 response to the total output power of all of the plurality of wind power installations,
3 increases the output power of at least one of the plurality of wind power installations, but
4 does not exceed the maximum rated power of the at least one of the plurality of wind power
5 installations, if the total output power of all of the plurality of wind power installations is less
6 than the maximum permissible output power of the wind park.

1 22. (AMENDED) The wind park of claim 19 wherein the plurality of wind power
2 installations are arranged in at least a first row and a second row, wherein the processing
3 unit maintains the output power of each wind power installations in the first row at
4 substantially its maximum rated output power and controls the output power of at least one
5 wind power installation in the second row so that the output power of the wind park is
6 substantially equal to the maximum permissible power output of the wind park and wherein
7 the at least one wind power installation does not exceed its maximum rated power.

1 23. (AMENDED) The wind park of claim 19 wherein the plurality of wind power
2 installations are arranged in at least a first row and a second row, wherein the processing
3 unit maintains the output power of each wind power installation in the first row at
4 substantially its maximum rated output power and controls the output power of at least one
5 wind power installation in the second row so that the output power of the wind park does
6 not exceed the maximum permissible power output of the wind park and the at least one
7 wind power installation does not exceed its maximum rated power.

1 24. (AMENDED) The wind park of claim 19 wherein the processing unit, in
2 response to removing at least one wind power installation from the plurality of wind power
3 installations, controls the output power of at least one of the remaining wind power
4 installations of the plurality of the wind power so that the output power of the wind park
5 does not exceed the maximum permissible power output of the wind park and the output
6 power of the at least one of the remaining wind power installation does not exceed its
7 maximum rated power.

1 25. (AMENDED) The wind park of claim 19 wherein the processing unit, in
2 response to removing at least one wind power installation from the plurality of wind power
3 installations, controls the output power of at least one of the remaining wind power
4 installations of the plurality of the wind power so that the output power of the wind park
5 does is substantially equal to the maximum permissible power output and the output power
6 of the at least one of the remaining wind power installation does not exceed its maximum
7 rated power.

1 27. (AMENDED) The method of claim 26 wherein controlling the output power of
2 the second group of wind power installations further includes increasing the output power of
3 at least one of the plurality of wind power installations in the second group of wind power
4 installations, but does not exceed the maximum rated power of the at least one of the
5 plurality of wind power installations in the second group, if the total output power of all of
6 the plurality of wind power installations is less than the maximum permissible output power
7 of the wind park.

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